

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /007 R

66609

DRAFTED BY: AF/S:DPNCHRISTENSEN

APPROVED BY: AF/S:DPNCHRISTENSEN

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P 261508Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY

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FOLLOWING REPEAT OF LUANDA 1209 SENT SECSTATE 21 AUG 75

QUOTE:

LIMITEB OFFICIAL USE LUANDA 1209

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN AO

SUBJECT: ANGOLAN AIR SAFETY AND AIRPORT SECURITY

REF: A. KARACHI 1737; B. STATE 193107

1. FOR NOW AIRPORT/AIRBASE EFFECTIVELY CONTROLLED BY PORTUGUESE MILITARY. ALTHOUGH WE CANNOT GUARANTEE IT, WE STILL FEEL THAT IN THE FACE OF RENEWED URBAN VIOLENCE HERE. THEY WILL HOLD THE AIRPORT AREA. THERE IS STILL, HOWEVER, THE POSSIBILITY - REMOTE AT THIS TIME - THAT SAM'S COULD BE USED AGAINST APPROACHING OR DEPARTING AIRCRAFT. THIS COULD HAPPEN IF RECENT WAVE OF MPLA ANTI-AMERICANISM REACHES A HIGH PITCH OR IF FMLA INFILTRATES INTO AREAS ALONG APPROACHES. ON BALANCE, CHARTER COMPANY CAN BE TOLD THEY WOULD BE REASONABLY SAFE FROM ACTUAL VIOLENCE NOW. HOWEVER, THEY SHOULD BE FURNISHED ALL RELEVANT INFORMATION.

2. IN ADDITION TO SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS, MONITORING

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OF TOWER-AIRCRAFT COMMUNICATIONS BY CONGEN OFFICER

FAMILIAR WITH AIR CONTROL PRACTICES HERE SUGGESTS THE
SYSTEM IS ALREADY OPERATING AT PEAK CAPACITY FOR SAFE
OPERATION.

3. IN SUM, SAFETY AND OPERATING CONDITIONS ARE
MARGINAL. THEY SHOULD CONTACT SWISSAIR OPERATIONS
FOR PROFESSIONAL AND UP-TO-DATE ADVICE. THEY SHOULD
ALSO BE AWARE OF FUEL PROBLEMS AND REQUIRE A
STRONG AVAILABILITY COMMITMENT FROM THE PORTUGUESE.
KILLORAN
UNQUOTE
INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE202602
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: AF/S:DPNCHRISTENSEN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750295-0568
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750817/aaaaaooe.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 KARACHI 1737, 75 STATE 193107
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 AUG 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <03 DEC 2003 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANGOLAN AIR SAFETY AND AIRPORT SECURITY
TAGS: CGEN, AO
To: KARACHI
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006